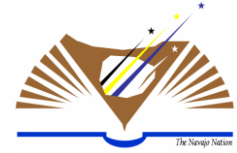




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PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT (PSA)

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NAVAJO NATION SCHOOL-COMMUNITY SAFETY TASK FORCE LAUNCHES OPERATION DINE' SCHOOL SAFETY

Window Rock, AZ – Due to recent school threats circulating on social media on the Navajo Nation and across the United States, the Navajo Nation has activated a team to assist with mitigating these threats. The team will be operating under the name, “Operation Diné School Safety” working directly with the Navajo Division of Diné Education’s (DODE) “School-Community Safety Task Force” and local law enforcement to ensure schools on the Navajo Nation are safe.

With the leadership of Dr. Ferlin Clark, the DODE School-Community Safety Task Force will be working to prevent incorrect information from being disseminated and to address the recent influx of false information on social media. The task force has launched, under Operation Diné School Safety, a Joint Information Center (JIC) which will serve as the unified information center with all the communication teams and public information representatives from schools under the Department of Diné Education.

The Navajo Department of Health – Public Health Emergency Preparedness and the Navajo Division for Children & Family Services, will develop and activate a website for schools, parents, students, community leaders and coordinate with Navajo Law Enforcement. The JIC team will manage the website and will be the single point of coordination for all public information during Operation Diné School Safety.

The website will include school community safety resources and a hotline phone number. Operation Diné School Safety will be devoted to school-community safety for the Navajo Nation, including educating about providing effective communication practices with social media and standard safety protocols and procedures for schools. More information will be provided as the website is activated. Contact the JIC team leader at sonlatsa.jim@ndcfs.org.

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